

Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) released the following statement today following the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 decision to uphold Second Amendment rights in the case of McDonald v. City of Chicago:

"The decision by the United States Supreme Court to uphold the freedoms guaranteed in our Constitution is a major victory for Americans. In the McDonald case, we saw how important it is that the individual right to responsibly own a firearm is protected. I am proud to stand with gun owners in the 11th District as well as throughout the state and country to applaud the Supreme Court for its decision to ensure our rights are protected. As challenges to the Second Amendment arise, I will continue to work on behalf of my constituents to defend our freedoms and rights as they are guaranteed under the Constitution."

Halvorson has continued to build upon her pro-gun record since coming to Congress from the Illinois legislature. She was a signatory to an amicus brief for District of Columbia v. Heller, which delivered a landmark decision in favor of the Second Amendment by the United States Supreme Court. Speaking out for constitutional rights for all Americans, Halvorson has stood by pro-constitution groups like the Illinois State Rifle Association to sign on to the amicus brief in the McDonald v. City of Chicago case.

Otis McDonald, a 76 year-old retired maintenance engineer who lives in the Chicago neighborhood of Morgan Park, sued the city of Chicago in 2008 over its 28-year handgun ban. McDonald attempted to purchase a handgun, but was denied, after his house had been broken into three times and threats were made on his life when he reported gunfire in his neighborhood to the police.